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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

*Baker File
Rm 222*

2 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senator
107 Fifth Street North
Great Falls, Montana 59401

RECEIVED

MAR 5 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Baucus:

This is in reply to your letter of February 10, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Darrell L. Anderson, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituent's concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

Edward R. Jacobs

for Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:
Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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Congressional

DUE OBC 2-26-93

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AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/18/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300709	02/18/93	02/10/93	03/03/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Max Baucus	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Darrell L Anderson	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Lmm 2-19-93			

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/18/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the Great Falls, MT office.

MAX BAUCUS
MONTANA

WASHINGTON, DC
(202) 224-2651

MONTANA TOLL FREE NUMBER
1-800-332-6106

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

PRB
92-235
709

February 10, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Director, Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 808
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed is correspondence I have received from my constituent, Darrell L. Anderson. I would appreciate having your views and findings on the statements the letter contains.

Please respond in duplicate, indicating the constituent's name and address. Please send your reply directly to my Great Falls field office. The address is:

U. S. Senator Max Baucus
107 Fifth Street North
Great Falls, Montana 59401

The phone number is (406) 761-1574.

Thank you for your assistance in responding to the concerns of my constituents.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



MSB/bro
Enclosure

Darrell L. Anderson
132 15th Ave. N.W.
Great Falls, MT 59404

The Honorable Senator Max Baucus
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

RE: FCC NPRM Docket 92-235
Comment Period ending Feb 26, 1993

February 5, 1993

Dear Senator Baucus,

I am a 41 year old aircraft mechanic employed by the Montana Air National Guard. I am also a Private Pilot and I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I attribute my career choice to my father introducing me to model aircraft as a young boy. For the last 18 years I have been very active in a 50 member local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled (R/C) model airplanes. I am currently instructing my son to fly an R/C aircraft, and hope to instill in him the love of aviation as my father did for me.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control operations.

I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be useable if these new rules are adopted. However, nation wide, near urban areas, many of those 19 frequencies are already unusable due to high powered commercial communications such as pagers, repeaters, and even illegal transmitters that the FCC has been unable to police.

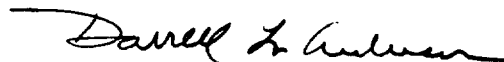
When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band.

Sincerely,



Darrell L. Anderson

(706) 453-9240

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE

SUNDAY JAN 31, 1993

A beep heard 'round the world

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Communications Commission moved earlier this month to put a powerful new tool in the hands of bosses and customers impatient to have their demands met immediately.

It set aside a spectrum of radio frequencies for satellite paging services that will transmit beeper messages anywhere on earth.

The new systems could also prove a boon to law-enforcement officials, rescue workers and numerous others anxious to track down missing goods and missing persons in remote reaches of the planet.

FCC officials said they hoped to begin issuing licenses this year for the systems, which would also make it easier to find stolen cars.

Satellites, which could be launched as early as next year, would be orbited just a few hundred miles above the earth to relay the

messages from hand-held devices costing only a few hundred dollars.

The New York Times reported that one company planning such services projects that each message would cost a few cents to transmit and would be limited to perhaps 100 characters.

That would be similar to paging devices already in service. By contrast, however, the new devices would reach anywhere on the globe. And the new system would have further reaching uses.

It is conceivable, for example, that in the case of a light plane that crashed in remote, mountainous region, surviving passengers would no longer wait for a search party to find them. Instead, they could send a beeper message to the headquarters of the rescue operation.

And system designers say that eventually every car could have such a device built into it that could be activated if the vehicle were stolen.

THE COMMENT
PERIOD IS NOT
UP YET!

(FEB 26)

A NOBLE CAUSE —

BUT...

IT APPEARS THAT TO THE FCC, THIS IS A DONE DEAL,
REGARDLESS OF THE MANIFESTED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

COUPLED WITH THE SHORT COMMENT PERIOD, AND THE
VAGUE NATURE OF THE DOCUMENT, IT IS APPARENT THAT
THIS WAS TO BE SLIPPED THROUGH REGARDLESS OF THE
CONSEQUENCES!

Daniel L. Lohman